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| 09/545,034 | 04/06/2000 | Eduardo Cue | P2512/560 | 9025 |

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EXAMINER

ZURITA, JAMES H

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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3625

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/545,034

Applicant(s)

CUE ET AL.

Examiner

James H. Zurita

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 74-87 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 74-87 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Prosecution History

On 6 April 2000, applicant filed the present application.

On 30 April 2003, the Examiner's first office action rejected claims 1-72 as unpatentable over Blinn (6058373) and Henson (US 6167383).

On 30 July 2003, applicant cancelled claim 72 and amended claims 1, 10, 11, 23, 24, 26, 27, 34, 39, 41, 51, 54-56 and 69-71.

On 15 October 2003, the Examiner, in a Final Office Action, rejected claims 1-71 as unpatentable over Blinn and Henson.

On 23 February 2004, applicant cancelled claims 3, 20, 21 and 58, amended other claims and requested reconsideration.

On 10 March 2004, the Examiner issued an Advisory Action.

On 22 March 2004, applicant requested continued examination.

On 1 July 2004, the Examiner, in a First Office Action following the Request for Continued Examination, rejected pending claims 1-2, 4-19, 22-57 and 59-71 as unpatentable over Blinn and Henson.

On 1 November 2004, applicant cancelled claims 14, 25-72 and added claim 73.

On 4 February 2005, the Examiner issued a Final Rejection of the pending claims as unpatentable over Blinn and Henson.

On 4 May 2005, applicant filed a second request for continued examination. Applicant cancelled all pending claims and added claims 74-80.

On 16 July 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 74, 76-79 as being unpatentable over Henson (US 6,167,383) in view of Blinn (US 6058373). Claims 75 and 80 were rejected as being unpatentable over Henson (US 6,167,383) in view of Blinn (US 6058373) and further in view of Fields (US 6704797).

Response to Amendment

On 25 November 2005, applicant amended claims 74-76, and added claims 81-87. Claims 74-87 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 74, 75, 79, 80, 82 and 87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

In claims 74, 75, 79, 80, the term ***request*** renders the claims indefinite. There appear to be two types of requests: a [generic] request for access, as in claim 74, and a [specific type of request] HTTP request, claims 75 and 80. Claim 79 refers to ***said*** request [for access], while claim 80 appears to refer to the HTTP request of claim 75.

The term is indefinite since it is not clear that each HTTP request is necessarily a request for access, or other type of request.

Claims 75, 80, 82 and 87 refer to "...referrer header field..." Claims 75 and 82 refer to "...examining a referrer header field in an HTTP URL designating said electronic commerce site" while claims 80 and 87 refer to "...identification ...contained in a referrer header field of the request." A source IP address may be found in an IP wrapper. Both are used in Henson.

The accepted meaning of URL is *Uniform* Resource Locator, which is an address for a resource on the Internet. URLs are used by web browsers to locate Internet resources. A URL specifies the protocol (e.g., http, https, etc.) to be used in accessing the resources, the name of the server on which the resource resides (such as www.whitehouse.gov), and, *optionally, the path to a resource (such as an HTML document or a file on that server).*¹ A URL may uniquely identify a specific file or image on a particular logical or physical server (host machine).

The two URLs below point to two different files at the domain *sandybay.com*. The first specifies an executable file that should be fetched using the FTP protocol; the second specifies a Web page that should be fetched using the HTTP protocol:

ftp://www.microsoft.com/stuff.exe
http://www.pcwebpopedia.com/index.html²

Applicant has not shown how he examines information from different layers.

Claims 75 and 80 refer to a ***HTTP referrer header field*** and its contents:

¹ Definition of URL, Microsoft Computer Dictionary, *emphasis added*.

² Definition of URL, Computer & Internet Dictionary, Random House Webster's.

...custom store application makes **said determination** by examining a referrer header field in an HTTP URL designating said electronic commerce site...[claim 75, emphasis added]

...said **identification** [of the custom store to be selected] is contained in a referrer header field of the request. [claim 80, emphasis added]

It is not clear whether applicant refers to the same data field of a referrer header.

The claims appear to rely on Fig. 4 and its description.

In any case, the Examiner notes that it is old and well known to identify a source machine by identifying its IP address.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 74, 76-79, 81, 83-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson (US 6,167,383) in view of Blinn (US 6058373).

As per claim 74, Henson discloses a system for presenting customized information at an electronic commerce site, comprising:

- ***Database(s)*** storing information relating to products offered by a vendor at an electronic commerce site. See, for example, at least Fig. 1 and related text for databases. The databases also store data that defines a custom store that provides customers with a restricted set of products and non-standard (discounted) pricing for products. See, for example, references to database-driven customization of multiple stores for multiple customer sets, Col. 2, lines 27-48. See also generating different store views for particular customer sets, Col. 3, lines 36-43. See also references to database-stored merchandising options, Col. 9, lines 26-39.

- ***application(s)*** (modules) that permit users
- to view stored information relating to products offered by a vendor at the electronic commerce site. See, for example, configurator web page, as in Col. 3, lines 12-29.
- to store in a database configuration data that defines a custom store that provides customers with a restricted set of products and non-standard (discounted) pricing for the products. See references to database-driven customization of multiple stores for multiple customer sets, Col. 2, lines 27-48. See generating different store views for particular customer sets, customizable per customer, Col. 3, lines 36-43. See also references to database-stored merchandising options, Col. 9, lines 26-39.
- ***application(s) (modules)*** responsive to a request for access to said electronic commerce site
- to determine whether the request originated from a predetermined host. See, for example, at least Col. 14, lines 19-41, for references to predetermined host www.dell.com, by checking link information in an http request.
- dynamically generating and returning a custom store page (e.g., federal site page) based upon configuration data if the request originated from predetermined host(s). See also, for example, at least Col. 14, lines 4-61 concerning Premier Pages.

As noted in response to arguments, Henson discloses a ***predetermined host***, for example, **www.dell.com**, col. 14, lines 19-34.

Henson ***does not*** specifically disclose how customer-set specific data such as product, pricing and merchandising data is originally inserted/added/stored into various databases. Blinn discloses applications that provide administrator interfaces. See, for

example, in Blinn, references to merchant clients, as in Col. 10, line 63-Col. 11, line 29. These clients contain interfaces such as web browsers, that permit merchants to administer their database stored product information, as disclosed by Blinn's Merchant System, Col. 11, line 30-Col. 31, line 32.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Henson and Blinn to disclose application(s) that provide Administrator(s) with interface(s) to both view said information relating to said products and to store in said database configuration data that defines a custom store that provides customers with a restricted set of said products and non-standard pricing for products. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to combine Henson and Blinn to disclose application(s) that provide Administrator(s) with interface(s) to both view said information relating to said products and to store in said database configuration data that defines a custom store that provides customers with a restricted set of said products and non-standard pricing for said products for the obvious reason that users, including administrators, often need interfaces to interact with computers to store data in databases.

Alternatively, the Examiner Official Notice is taken that it is old and well known to identify a source machine by identifying its IP address. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Henson and knowledge of a notorious nature to disclose using the IP address of a source computer to identify a source machine.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to combine Henson and knowledge of a notorious nature to disclose using the IP address of a source computer to identify a source machine for the obvious reason that it would allow a destination machine to approve inbound connections by searching a list of blocked source addresses, for example.

Henson and Blinn do not use the labels "...administrative application that provides an administrator with an interface..." "...administrative application that provides an administrator with an interface...to store in said database configuration data..." "...custom store application..." "...administrators..." However, the labels given to various actors and modules are not functionally related to the substrate of the article of manufacture. The labels themselves carry little or no patentable weight. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability, see *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply a label to various actors and modules in a system such as Henson because such data does not functionally relate to the substrate of the article of manufacture and merely labeling the data differently from that in the prior art would have been obvious. See *Gulack* cited above.

As per claim 76, Henson does not specifically refer to a "...reconciliation..." application that determines whether said configuration data includes information relating to products that have become obsolete and provides notification to the administrator if

such information is included in the configuration data. See, for example, at least references to issuing warnings concerning compatibility issues among system components, as in Col. 7, line 57-Col. 8, line 6.

As per claim 77, Henson discloses that the database stores standard prices for products, that the data may include discount pricing information, and that application(s) may automatically calculate discounted prices from stored standard prices and display them on web pages. See, for example, reference to **update price** buttons, that trigger functions that automatically calculate prices according to selections, as in Figs. 3A, 3B and 3C and related text. Configuration data may include discount pricing information, as in Col. 10, lines 19-48 concerning applicable discounts. See also at least Col. 10, lines 19-48, concerning discounts available to customers of various customer sets.

As per claim 78, Henson discloses that the database stores configuration data for a plurality of different custom stores (Col. 14, lines 4-18). Henson discloses that a custom store application may select configuration data that is associated with the identified host to generate and return custom store page(s). See Col. 14, lines 4-61, which disclose that configuration data may determine what a customer is allowed to see when he is identified as belonging to a particular custom store.

As per claim 79, Henson discloses that a request may include an indication of the custom store to be selected. See, for example, Col. 14, lines 19-61.

Claim 81 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 75.

Claim 83 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 76.

Claim 84 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 77.

Claim 85 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 78.

Claim 86 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 79.

Claims 75, 80, 82 and 87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson (US 6,167,383) in view of Blinn (US 6058373) and further in view of Fields (US 6,704797).

As per claim 75, Henson discloses that a custom store application may make a determination that a request for access originated from a predetermined host by examining embedded identifiers in an HTTP header. See, for example, Col. 14, lines 19-61 for information and identifier information contained in HTTP headers. Henson and does **not** specifically disclose that the particular identifier is referrer header field of the HTTP request. This feature is disclosed by Fields. See, for example, Fields, Col. 4, line 44-67, Col. 6, lines 1-26.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Henson and Fields to disclose having custom store applications make a determination by examining a **referrer** header field in an HTTP request. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to combine Henson and Fields to disclose having custom store applications make a determination by examining a **referrer** header field in an HTTP request for the obvious reason that it is important to provide for Internet information distribution techniques that is lightweight, uses existing protocols and that is completely transparent to the end user.

Claim 80 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 75.

Claim 82 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 87.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been carefully considered but are not persuasive.

Rejections under 35 USC 101 are withdrawn in view of amendment.

Rejection of claims 74-80 ("and/or") is withdrawn in view of amendment, page 7, lines 3-7.

Rejection of claim 74 ("dynamically") is withdrawn in view of amendment, page 7, lines 8-14.

Rejection of claim 76 is withdrawn in view of amendment, page 9, lines 12-21.

Rejection of claim 80 is withdrawn in view of explanation, page 9, lines 3-10.

As to the rejection under 35 USC 103(a), applicant argues, page 9, lines 11-16:

Claim 74 and 76-79 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103, on the grounds that they were considered to be unpatentable over the Henson patent in view of the Blinn patent. Claims 75 and 80 were rejected on the basis of these two patents, in further view of the Fields patent. For at least the reasons presented in Applicants' previous response, it is respectfully submitted that these references do not suggest the claimed subject matter.

The Examiner notes that applicant provides no arguments concerning Fields, introduced in the Office Action of 16 July 2005 in response to applicant's amendment concerning checking the referrer filed of an HTTP header.

As to claims 74 and 78, Applicant argues, page 7, line 15-page 8, line 2:

In connection with claims 74 and 78, the Office Action alleges that the term "predetermined" renders the claim indefinite, because it "appears to refer to activities that take place outside the metes and bounds of the claim." The basis for this statement is not understood. The word "predetermined" is not referring to an activity, per se. Rather, it functions as a qualifier

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on the source of requests that can cause the custom store to be generated and returned to the requestor. Specifically, a request from any host on the Internet does not cause the custom store to be generated and returned. Rather, only requests from a predetermined host, i.e. one that is known *a priori*, will cause the custom store to be generated and returned. Thus, the term does not refer to an activity outside the metes and bounds of the claim. Rather, it is a limitation of the claimed subject matter itself....

In response to these arguments, the Examiner notes that applicant appears to agree that the host [machines] are determined *a priori*³, i.e., beforehand, outside the metes and bounds of claims 74, 8, 81 and 85.

As to claims 74 and 78, Applicant also argues, page 8, lines 3-6,

A search of the Patent Office website reveals that over 55,000 patents have issued since 1976 with the word "predetermined" in their claims. It seems inconceivable that so many patents would have issued with this term if it was considered to be indefinite. page 8, lines 3-6.

In response, the Examiner notes that the rejection specifically refers to how the term is used in the *instant* application, by *this* applicant. When considering each claim as a whole, in light of *these* disclosures, "*predetermined*" renders the claims indefinite.

As to claims 74 and 78, Applicant also argues, page 8, lines 7-15,

The Office Action states that the Examiner interprets the term "predetermined host" to refer to "a portion of URL information that is used by the system to recognize a customer as being in a particular customer group based upon the link used to access an online store." (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that there is no basis for this interpretation. As stated above, in claim 74 the term "predetermined" is a qualifier on the type of host, i.e. a machine. It does not pertain to the identification of customers, namely the particular person who is sending a request from the machine. Rather, it is concerned with the machine itself from which the request originates.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner notes that in the absence of an explicit definition, during examination, limitations of a claim are given their broadest reasonable interpretation. A *host* is, on the Internet or other large networks, a server computer that has access to other computers on the network.⁴ Henson discloses, on

³ *A priori*, formed or conceived beforehand, MERRIAM WEBSTER'S Collegiate dictionary.

⁴ Definition of *host*, MICROSOFT PRESS Computer Dictionary.

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the Internet, a server computer that has access to other computers on the network.

Henson's host, **www.dell.com** is determined before hand⁵ in that the name is

mentioned in Henson itself. This interpretation is based on applicant's latest argument,

...As stated above, in claim 74 the term "predetermined" is a qualifier on the type of host, i.e. a machine. It does not pertain to the identification of customers, namely the particular person who is sending a request from the machine. Rather, it is concerned with the machine itself from which the request originates.

Applicant concludes, page 8, lines 16-18.

...It is respectfully submitted that the term "predetermined host" appearing in claim 74 is definite and should be interpreted in accordance with the ordinary and custom meaning of those terms, namely a machine that is known *a priori*. (emphasis added)

The above interpretation is consistent with applicant's most recent request.

Concerning claim 77, applicant argues, page 8, line 22-page 9, line 2,

...the Office Action alleges that the term "automatically" renders the claim indefinite. Again, it is respectfully submitted that this is a term whose meaning is readily understood to connote an action that a machine carries out on its own, without requiring manual intervention.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner notes that the actions of claim 77 are performed within the context of claim 74, i.e., ...responsive to a request for access [by a user, via an interface]...and in response to user actions of claim 74, thus requiring some type of intervention by a user. The Examiner believes applicant is not trying to limit input to non-manual means, such as via spoken cues, for example. Alternatively, since computers perform functions according to instructions, it is not clear why the adjective "automatically " appears. Consistent with this latter view, the Examiner will continue to interpret the term as referring to actions that take place when one uses a computer, such as when one uses his hands to click on a button on a web page, or when one uses hands to enter information using a keyboard.

⁵ Definition of predetermine, MERRIAM WEBSTER'S Collegiate Dictionary.

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Concerning claim 76, Applicant argues, page 10, line 14-page 11, line 2:

In addition, other distinguishing features of the invention are recited in the dependent claims. For example, claim 76 recites a reconciliation application that determines whether configuration data includes information relating to products that have become **obsolete**, and provides notification to the administrator in such a case. ... [prior art, cited portion] relates to the compatibility of various options in a configuration being built by a customer. It is nothing to do with configuration data that is stored in a database to define products that are to be made available to the customers. Nor does it have anything to do with the state of obsolescence of such products. As such, the Henson patent cannot be interpreted to suggest the subject matter of claim 76.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner respectfully reminds applicant that applicant removed "**obsolete**" from claim 76, as applicant admits, page 8, lines 19-21.

Concerning claim 78, Applicant argues, page 11, lines 3-11,

Claim 78 recites that the database stores configuration data for a plurality of different custom stores, and the configuration data for a particular store is selected on the basis of the predetermined **host** from which the request for access originated. In rejecting this claim, the Office Action refers to the Henson patent at column 14, lines 4-18. It is respectfully submitted that this portion of the patent does not suggest the claimed subject matter. Rather, it discloses that a custom store "specific to the given customer" is selected. Thus, consistent with the discussion presented above, the system of the Henson patent operates on the basis of the identification of the customer, not on the basis of the **host** from which requests originate.

In response to these arguments, the Examiner respectfully notes that Henson performs the same functions disclosed by applicant, namely, identifying a source computer [applicant's predetermined host] and displaying information.

A "traverse" is a denial of an opposing party's allegations of fact.⁶ The Examiner respectfully submits that applicants' arguments and comments do not appear to traverse what Examiner regards as knowledge that would have been generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Even if one were to interpret applicants' arguments and comments as constituting a traverse, applicants' arguments and comments do not appear to constitute an adequate traverse because applicant has not specifically pointed out the

supposed errors in the examiner's action, which would include stating why the noticed fact is not considered to be common knowledge or well-known in the art. 27 CFR 1.104(d)(2), MPEP 707.07(a). An adequate traverse must contain adequate information or argument to create on its face a reasonable doubt regarding the circumstances justifying Examiner's notice of what is well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. In re Boon, 439 F.2d 724, 728, 169 USPQ 231, 234 (CCPA1971).

If applicant does not seasonably traverse the well known statement during examination, then the object of the well known statement is taken to be admitted prior art. In re Chevenard, 139 F.2d 71, 60 USPQ 239 (CCPA 1943). MPEP 2144.03 Reliance on Common Knowledge in the Art or "Well Known" Prior Art. In view of applicant's failure to adequately traverse official notice, the following are admitted prior art:

...users, including administrators, often need interfaces to interact with computers to store data in databases.
... it is important to provide for Internet information distribution techniques that is lightweight, uses existing protocols and that is completely transparent to the end user.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

⁶ Definition of Traverse, Black's Law Dictionary, "In common law pleading, a traverse signifies a denial."

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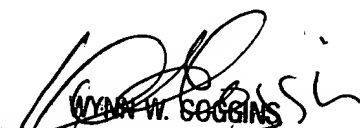
TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James H. Zurita whose telephone number is 571-272-6766. The examiner can normally be reached on 8a-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on 571-272-7159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JZ
James Zurita
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3625
6 February 2006


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600